

Docket No.: 057454-0994

PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

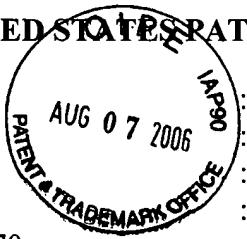
In re Application of

Takeshi SATOH, et al.

Application No.: 10/750,870

Filed: January 05, 2004

For: POROUS Si₃ N₄ AND PRODUCING METHOD THEREOF



Customer Number: 20277

Confirmation Number: 3233

Group Art Unit: 1754

Examiner: Edward M. Johnson

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop IDS
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

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CERTIFICATION PARAGRAPH

The undersigned certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement as described in 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

Each reference was cited in a corresponding foreign application search report or office action and its relevance discussed therein. A copy of the foreign search report or office action, is attached for the Examiner's information. Please note cited reference EP 0 653 392 A was filed with the Information Disclosure Statement dated January 5, 2004

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

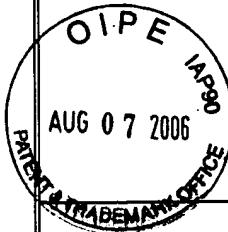
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as our correspondence address.**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION  (PTO-1449)				ATTY. DOCKET NO. 057454-0994	SERIAL NO. 10/750,870	
APPLICANT Takeshi SATOH, et al.						
				FILING DATE January 05, 2004	GROUP 1754	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Document Number Number-Kind Code ₂ (<i>if known</i>)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
		US 5,126,294	06/30/1992	Hirosaki et al.		
		US 5,213,729	05/25/1993	Edler et al.		
A1	US	2001/0027158	10/04/2001	Itoh et al.		
	US	5,928,601	07/27/1999	Miyake et al.		
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Foreign Patent Document Country Codes -Number & Kind Codes (<i>if known</i>)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear	Translation
	A1	EP 0 940 377	09/06/1999	Sumitomo Ele. Ind. Ltd.	With English abstract	Yes
	A1	EP 0 669 295	08/30/1995	Honda Giken Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha	With English abstract	No
	A2	EP 1 498 400	01/19/2005	Asahi Glass Co., Ltd.	With English abstract	
	A2	EP 0 784 038	07/16/1997	Sumitomo Ele. Ind. Ltd.	With English abstract	
		JP 11-60355	03/02/1999	Sumitomo Ele. Ind. Ltd.	With English abstract	
	A1	EP 0 757 024	02/05/1997	Sumitomo Ele. Ind. Ltd.	With English abstract	
OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.				
		"Chemical Abstract & Indexes, American Chemical Society, Columbus, US, XP000353888				
		Kawai C, "Effect Of Grain Size Distribution On The Strength Of Porous Si3N4 Ceramics Composed Of Elongated Beta-Si3N4 Grains" December 1, 2001, pp. 5713-5717, XP001107807				
		Search Report dated May 19, 2006				
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.
Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.